

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace page 4, lines 10-13 with the following amended paragraph:

Preferably a number of  $n \geq 4$  holes are grouped in the far end of the nail within a distance  $x$  which is smaller than  $2(n)(d)$ ,  $d$  being the diameter of the holes. More preferably the value for  $x$  is smaller than  $1.5(n)(d)$ . In another embodiment, the value for  $x$  may be smaller than  $1.8(n)(d)$ .  
In yet another embodiment, the value for  $x$  may be smaller than  $1.4(n)(d)$ .

Please replace page 7, lines 19-25 with the following amended paragraph:

The projection of the hole axis 6 of said through holes 3 in a plane orthogonal to said longitudinal axis 5 (or if the hole axis 6 - as shown in the figures - is lying already in an orthogonal plane, the hole axis itself) is such that at least two of said (projected) hole axes 6 are at an angle  $\alpha$  greater than zero and less than  $90^\circ$  with respect to each other. In Fig. 2 the angle  $\alpha$  is approximately  $60^\circ$ . In a first preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $58^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 62^\circ$ . In a second preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $59^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 61^\circ$ . In a third preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $43^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 47^\circ$ . In a fourth preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $44^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 46^\circ$ . In a fifth preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $35^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 37^\circ$ . In a sixth preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $35.5^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 36.5^\circ$ . In a seventh preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $29^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 31^\circ$ . In an eighth preferred embodiment, the angle  $\alpha$  is  $29.5^\circ \leq \alpha \leq 30.5^\circ$ .